

He died at Eugene, September 12, 1940, at the age of seventy-nine years.

Dr. Sweetser was co-author with Mary E. Kent of a small popular "Key and Flora" of Oregon, and the author of a number of shorter scientific articles. During the later years of his life he became greatly interested in the botanical history of the Pacific Northwest, and has left a great deal of collected material on this subject, none of which, unfortunately, has been published.

His greatest contribution, however, has been as a teacher, and it was in this field that he himself felt that his most important work lay. His deep understanding of the problems of young people, his kindly personal interest, and his keen sense of humor have endeared him to the many students who have come in contact with him during his years of instructing. It was his purpose to build an appreciation of nature in as many people as possible, and to this end he wrote a considerable number of popular botanical articles for newspapers and journals and accepted frequent invitations to lecture before various clubs. Another of his major interests was the conservation of the native flora and much of his work was directed to that end.

He was a member of Sigma Xi, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Medical Society of America, the Society of American Bacteriologists, the Botanical Society of America, the American Association of University Professors, the National Geographic Society, and an associate member of the American Museum of Natural History.—LEROY E. DETLING, University of Oregon, Eugene.

A NEW SPECIES OF PARONYCHIA FROM MEXICO¹

EARL L. CORE

While checking over several sheets of *Paronychia* from various herbaria, the writer came across a specimen from the collection of Dr. Edward Palmer which apparently belongs to an undescribed species. For this plant the following name is proposed:

Paronychia albomarginata sp. nov. Herba perennis, e caudice crasso lignescente; caule ramosissimo a basi incipiente, 4–7 cm. longo, puberulente cum internodis numerosis brevis; foliis linearibus vel linearibus-oblongis, puberulentissimis, 3–4 mm. longis, acutis vel mucronatis a stipulis celatis; stipulis argenteis folia aequantibus vel excedentibus; bracteis brevioribus quam flores vix eis paribus; cymis parvis; calycis segmentis 2 mm. longis, puberulentibus, cum marginibus albis conspicuis, in cuspe breve et erecta terminantibus; staminibus sepalorum longitudine dimidiis.

¹ Contribution No. 12 from the Herbarium of West Virginia University.

Perennial from a thick woody tap root; stem much branched from the base, 4–7 cm. long, puberulent, with numerous short internodes; leaves linear or linear-oblong, densely puberulent, 3–4 mm. long, acute or cuspidate, hidden among the stipules; stipules silvery, ascending, equaling or exceeding the leaves; bracts shorter than or barely equaling the flowers; cymes small, few-flowered; sepals 2 mm. long, puberulent, with conspicuous white margins, tipped by a short erect cusp; stamens half the length of the sepals.

Type. Saltillo, State of Coahuila, Mexico, April 9, 1905, *Edward J. Palmer 518* (Britton Herbarium, New York Botanical Garden; co-type in Herbarium of Missouri Botanical Garden).

This plant is obviously related to *Paronychia Wilkinsonii* S. Wats., from which species it differs principally in the length of the sepal awns, which in *P. Wilkinsonii* are half the length of the sepals or longer and widely spreading, whereas in the present species they are very short and erect. Other differences are in the leaves, which in *P. Wilkinsonii* are 4–6 mm. long, in *P. albomarginata* only 3–4 mm. long; in the stipules, which in *P. Wilkinsonii* are widely spreading, about equaling the leaves, and in the present species erect, generally exceeding the leaves; and in the size of the flowers, about 3 mm. long in *P. Wilkinsonii*, and only about 2 mm. long in *P. albomarginata*.

West Virginia University,
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GREAT BASIN PLANTS—III. CARYOPHYLLACEAE

BASSETT MAGUIRE

The North American pinks have received no serious study¹ since the revision by Robinson in 1897. Progress in the knowledge of our western forms has undergone little advancement since. In attempting to identify new material and to order that of the herbarium more than ordinary difficulty has been encountered, due to this lack of progress and to the multiplicity of forms occurring in recent collections. In his treatment of the family, Robinson (4) constantly referred to the complexity and confusion existing in its taxonomy. Hultén (2, p. 166) has remarked concerning a segregate of *Cerastium Beeringianum*, "Owing to the great variability and lack of distinctive characters the taxonomy of the above-mentioned plants is very confusing." This statement might well apply to the entire family and, in our concern, particularly to the family in our region.

¹ The first part of the revision of the Western Hemisphere members of *Spergularia* by Dr. R. P. Rossbach appeared in the March, 1940, issue of *Rhodora*.